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REPORT

DATE DISTR. 23 January 1953

SUBJECT Recovery of Sunken U-Boats; Return of SAG Oder to NO. OF PAGES 1
East Germany; Freighter Construction

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

PLACE
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Ten caissons have been built in the People's Republic (DDR) at the Frohse, Genthin and Plaue yards, at a cost of approximately 1,000,000 DM. The Ship Salvage and Diving Committee (Wirtschaftsgruppe Schiffsbergung und Taucherei - WST) is beginning to raise sunken submarines, which are to be turned over to the Seepolizei after being repaired. One is to be raised every three weeks. They will be raised with four caissons, although two are adequate. The overhauling of the raised vessels will be done at the National shipyard at Stralsund and the Warnow yard at Warnemünde. The WST is trying with all sorts of excuses to avoid using either caissons or salvage vessels. The individual divers' share of the profit is considerably greater if the vessels are first cut apart and then recovered as scrap.

2. among the Soviet SAG concerns (returned to the DDR is the Soviet Oder Co. Private Ltd. Soviet Oder Joint Stock Company' (Oder, 511000gesellschaft) Co. Private vessels expropriated at the same time have not been returned to the individual owners, but handed over to the DDR. The company's business is 60 percent wrecking jobs. This is another SAG plant that has been returned to the DDR because of unprofitableness and inferiority of material. [redacted] there were seven vessels with underwater damages lying in the slips at the same time, all of which had to be repaired within ten days.

3. The Type 4 freighter will not be built after all. It was already on the ways when they were cleared recently on account of important reparations. The General Shipping Administration lost 18,000 DM thereby. Two Type 1 freighters are being built at Wismar. One is to be finished in March 1953. It will have a 1,000 hp. engine. The crankshaft has arrived from the West.

Comment: SAG Oderschiffahrt

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